



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

George Washington Birthplace National Monument  
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## **George Washington Birthplace - News Release**

**Release date:** Immediate  
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### **George Washington Birthplace Celebrates the 222<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Constitution**

Join the staff at George Washington Birthplace National Monument on Sunday, September 13 in celebrating the 222<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Constitution was signed on September 17, 1787. As the presiding officer of the Constitutional Convention, George Washington played a crucial role in determining the shape of our government and the country that he fought to establish. With almost fatherly attention, Washington spent the rest of his life nurturing and protecting the integrity of the document that he swore to "preserve, protect and defend" at his Inauguration as the first President of the United States. He declared in his farewell address, "The Constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all."

The highlight of our Sunday event will be a 2:00 talk by Park Ranger Phillip Greenwalt. Greenwalt, who received his bachelor's degree in



**The Constitution of the United States of America, visitors to the park will be able to sign a copy of the document on September 13<sup>th</sup>**

History at Wheeling Jesuit University and is pursuing a graduate degree at George Mason University. He is the recipient of the John T. Wack Award at Wheeling Jesuit University in recognition of his work in the History Department and his undergraduate thesis. Sunday's talk is titled *Blazing History One Pen Stroke at a Time*, will focus on the ramifications of the Constitution along with a look at some of the obscure signers and their contributions.



**Park Ranger Phillip  
Greenwalt**

Other events that day include an activity packet for children and young adults. Also, a bean and corn counting and a Constitution trivia contest. There will also be the chance to win prizes related to the day. The visitor center will also have other exhibits on the Constitution and a cut-out of George Washington for pictures. Visitors on Sunday will also be given an opportunity to renew their commitment to the Constitution by signing a replica of the document. Admission to the lecture is free; the regular admission of \$4 for visitors over 15 applies to those wishing to visit the historic area. George Washington Birthplace National Monument is located on Route 204, 2 miles off of Route 3, 38 miles east of Fredericksburg, VA and 11 miles west of Montross, VA. Additional information about George Washington Birthplace National Monument is available by phone at (804) 224-1732 ext. 269 or on the web at [www.nps.gov/gewa](http://www.nps.gov/gewa).